IN THE SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0042], beginning on page 15, as follows:

--[0042] The content of the EEPROM 4 is analyzed in the security module 7. This will be explained with reference to Fig. 4. First, the EEPROM data, the additional information, is read from the EEPROM in step 11. In step 12, the security module 7 checks whether the EEPROM data, AK, Rights, has been degenerated. If the EEPROM data has not been lost or degenerated, the EEPROM data (including the Asset Key AK) is decrypted in decrypter D with the CID_key, and the information of the disc is read out by decrypting the EAK(data) in decryption module 8 with the decrypted Asset Key AK in step 13. If the EEPROM data has been lost or degenerated, the security module 7 checks whether the EEPROM data, AK, Rights, has been degenerated "naturally", in step 14. There are different ways to check whether the data has been degenerated naturally. For example, it is possible to detect the number of errors in a certain block and calculate the error rate. If this number exceeds a certain predefined number, it can be decided that the degeneration has not been the result of natural degeneration. International Patent Application No. WO96/20443, corresponding to U.S. Patent 5,475,693, describes different embodiments of performing such a check. It is also possible to check whether the number of errors in the data exceeds the error correction capacity of the data. It can be decided that, if this is the case, the degeneration is not due to natural degeneration.--.

Please amend paragraph [0049], beginning on page 20, as follows:

--[0049] The claimed invention is not limited to a particular kind of record carrier comprising an integrated circuit. All kinds of record carriers can be used, such as, for example, a CD-ROM disc, a DVD-Video disc, a DVD+RW disc a Blu-Ray disc, or a Mini Disc, but also non-optical record carriers, such as, for example, a hard disc or a magnetical tape. The invention is neither limited to a particular kind of connection method between the integrated circuit and the security module present in the player (or recorder). Although an optical/radio frequency connection method is used in the embodiments (in which an optical connection is used for communication from the security module in the player to the integrated circuit, and in which a RF connection is used for communication from the integrated circuit to the security module in the player), it is, for example, also possible to use an inductive coupling method using, for example, the well-known MIFARE contactless interface system (standardized in ISO/IEC 14443 for contactless cards). It is also possible to use a capacitive coupling, for example, the capacitive coupling already mentioned and described in International Patent Application NO. WO 02/25582, corresponding to U.S. Patent 6,986,151 (Attorney Docket No. PHNL000525), which is herein incorporated by reference. It is further possible to use RF coupling for both connections (integrated circuit towards security module and security module to

integrated circuit), for example using the so-called Meu chip, developed by the company Hitachi, Ltd. The invention is not limited to a particular kind of storage unit or to a particular kind of OTP memory.--.